

§ 18.92 Purpose of regulations.

The regulations contained in this subpart fulfill the requirements of section 103 of the Act for regulations to govern the taking and importation of each species of marine mammal for which the moratorium imposed by section 101 has been waived.

§ 18.93 Scope of regulations.

(a) The provisions in this subpart apply only after (1) the Director has made a decision to waive a moratorium pursuant to section 101(a)(3)(A) of the Act, (2) the opportunity for a hearing required by section 103(d) of the Act has been provided, and (3) the Director has made a determination, in the case of State laws and regulations, to approve such State laws and regulations pursuant to section 109(a)(2) of the Act and subpart F of this part.

(b) The provisions of this subpart, unless specifically stated, apply to all taking and/or importation of each species of marine mammal for which the moratorium has been waived other than takings for scientific research or public display, which are governed by § 18.31 of this part, or takings incidental to commercial fishing operations which are governed by § 18.24.

§ 18.94 Pacific walrus (Alaska).

(a) Pursuant to sections 101(a)(3)(A) 103, and 109 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, the moratorium on the hunting and killing of Pacific walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) in waters or on lands subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska, the United States, or on the high seas by any person, vessel, or conveyance subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska or the United States, is waived, provided that beginning August 2, 1979 this waiver shall not be effective, and no taking or importation under the waiver shall be allowed, until this section is amended to establish regulations to effectively control taking and otherwise implement the waiver.

(b) [Reserved]

[41 FR 14373, Apr. 5, 1976, as amended at 44 FR 45566, Aug. 2, 1979]

Subpart I [Reserved]

Subpart J—Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Oil and Gas Exploration, Development and Production Activities in the Beaufort Sea and Adjacent Northern Coast of Alaska

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 64 FR 4334, Jan. 28, 1999, subpart J was revised, effective Jan. 28, 1999 through Jan. 30, 2000. However, subpart J expired on Dec. 15, 1998 and no longer exists. The revised subpart follows:

§ 18.121 What specified activities does this rule cover?

Regulations in this subpart apply to the incidental, but not intentional, take of polar bear and Pacific walrus by U.S. citizens (as defined in § 18.27(c)) engaged in oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska. These regulations do not apply to the incidental, unintentional take of polar bear and Pacific walrus resulting from sub-sea pipelines offshore in the Beaufort Sea, and subsequent production and transport of oil through sub-sea pipelines to tie in with onshore facilities. These regulations and any authorizations under these regulations do not constitute approval of future sub-sea pipeline construction and operation activities.

18.122 In what specified geographic region does this rule apply?

This rule applies to the specified geographic area defined by a North/South line at Barrow, Alaska, and includes all Alaska coastal areas, State waters, and Outer Continental Shelf waters east of that line to the Canadian border and an area 25 miles inland from Barrow on the west to the Canning River on the east. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is excluded from this rule.

§ 18.123 When is this rule effective?

Regulations in this subpart are effective January 28, 1999 through January 30, 2000, for year-round oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities.